

# THE PLEASANT HISTORY OF CAWOOD the ROOKE.

O R,

The Assembly of Birds, with the severall  
Specches which the Birds made to the *Eagle*, in  
hope to have the Government in his Absence:

And lastly, how the Rooke was banished; with the  
Reason why crafty Fellowes are called Rookes.

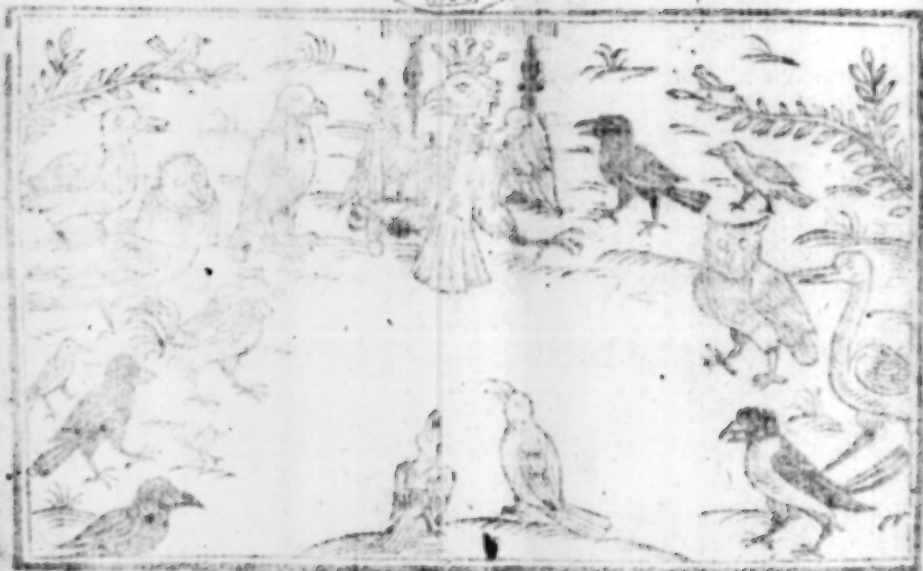
*As also fit Morralls and Expositions added to every Chapter.*



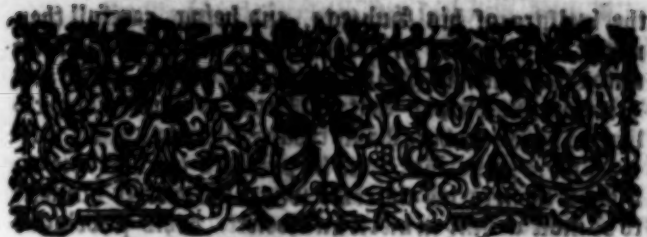
London Printed by T. C. for F. Grove, and are to be sold at his Shoppe,  
at the upper-end of Snow-Hill, neere the Saracens head withous New-Gate. 1640.

# THE PLEASEANT HISTORY OF CAWWOOD the ROOKE.

The Assembly of Birds, with the several  
Speeches which the Birds made to the Rook, in  
hope to have the Government in his Absence:  
And lastly, how the Rook was justified, with the  
Reason why certain of the Birds were banished.



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# THE PLEASANT HISTORY OF *Canwood the Roake*

## CHAP. I.



In the heate of Summer, when the Woods were lined with pleasant shade, and filled with the cheerefull quacks of the feather'd Musicians. It happened that the Eagle, the royall King of Birds, intending to leave off his government a while, and to live solitary in the Deserts of Arabia, made a

Proclamation to be done in this manner. That seeing he purposed for some reasons best knowne unto himselfe, to retire unto the Arabian Desert, & for some few Moneths to leave off all rule and dominion; he therfore tending

## The History of *Cawwood the Rooke.*

the welfare of his Subjects, and being careful they might not be any longer in bondage to the Tyranny of their King, thought good to publish the following Decree, which was that all Birds, of what name, colour, or degree (soever, should repair unto the Wood, called *Sylvia*; and that there be purposed to chuse one amongst them for the rest; who could declare himselfe to be most worthy in merit and desert. This Proclamation being written and subscribed with *Aquila Rex avium*, which is in *English*, *The Eagle King of Birds*: It was



no sooner made knowne through all the Woods, heathes, and bushie places where Birds doe resort, but that presently their hearts were inflamed with ambition, every one desiring to prove himselfe worthy of the Vice-regency or government, during the ratifying of the King, so that in a short time there were come unto the Court of *Sylvia*, Robert the Robin, Mavis the Magpie, Phillip the Sparrow, the

## The History of *Cawwood the Rake.*

the Blackbird, Scolding, and Jackdaw, with Philomel the Nightingall, Tom Titmouse, Parus the Wren, Spinach the Finch, Columbar the Dove, and Maybird the Cuckoo, with many others which came with prepared speeches to make knowne their staves worth. But when the Eagle having seated himselfe on a high Cedar tree, began to look downe upon the Assembly of Birds, who sat upon the lower boughes round about him, and by the piercing quicknesse of his eye, he soon perceived that his cosen Rapax the Hawke, who was somewhat a kin unto him; and Cawwood the Rooke were onely absent. So that before he would make knowne his minde unto them, he sent Flywill the Buzzard for his cosen Rapax the Hawke; and Cawwood the Rooke; and withall saying that the Hawke kept out of the way, because he had committed many outrages upon the smaller birds, he sent him a full pardon for all his former offences, bidding Flywill to command him to come away with all speed.

### The Morall.

**T**here is no man hath so meane a conceit of himselfe, but he thinks he deserveth honour and preferment, as may appeare by the Wren and the small Birds, who all resorted to the Court upon the Eagles Proclamation, to make the worthiest Vice-regent in his absence. The Hawke and the Rooke keeping away from Court, doth shew that a guilty conscience, is a selfe accuser, and maketh men afraid to come in sight, especially at any publike Meeting.

## CHAP. II.

How Flywill the Buzzard carried a Pardon to Rapax the Hawke, and how the Hawke and the Rooke requited him for his paines.

**N**O sooner had Flywill the Buzzard done the Business with a string round about his necke, but straight he

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toke wing, and flew away to a tall house that stood by,  
to tell him he knew the Hawke and the Rooke old well to  
rejoyce, and there accordingly he told many things to them, and  
delivered the Parson to the Hawke, telling him that the  
King out of his free mercy, had sent him a Parson for all  
his former bloody facts, wishing him to obey the former  
Proclamation, and to make all hast that could be to come  
unto the Court. The Hawke took the Parson, and ha-  
ving read it, he gave Flywill the Buzard many thanks,  
so that he being so hoist of wing, had toke the paines to  
bring him these good tidings and so walking a while with  
Cawwood the Rooke, as if they had consulted about go-  
ing to the Court; the Hawke told the Rooke that this  
Buzard, (albeit he was a kin unto him, was a shame and  
disgrace unto all Hawkes, being a Coward, and not va-  
ring to cease on any thing but dead Carcass, or some  
scattered guts, or to take childrens bread and butter out  
of their hands, all which doe shew the baseness of his  
bearding, and that he never came out of the true Nest or  
Nest of the Hawkes; and therefore friend Rooke, seeing  
thou hast bene accounted a cunning Politician in thy  
dayes, I would intreate thee to instruct me in some device  
how we might make him a way, and yet have no hand  
in the matter. The Rooke scratching his head with one  
of his claws good while a while, till at last turning to the  
Hawke, he told him, that there was a new intention  
come into his braine how to make away the Buzard, and  
set him going with a powder. After this they retur-  
ned againe unto Flywill the Buzard, who never suspected  
what they had contrived against him, but complained un-  
to them that he had gotten a great cold in his head, by  
sitting so farre in a rainy day, he being onely now to  
haunt the Arrens, and there to lie from one old tree to ano-  
ther, and so passe away the time. But no longer had the  
Rooke heard him say that he had gotten a cold, but he  
presently tooke hold of the occasion, telling him that there  
was no better medicine for a cold than warmth; and  
therefore

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therefore if he would but tie his head about with a cloth, he should finde that the rhume would presently voin it selfe, and runne out of his beake in a great abundance. The Buzzard being full of paine with the headach, consented therunto, so that the Rooke very carefully and cunningly tied a clout round about his head, and so bin him selfe to the next tree. The foolish Buzzard thinking he could finde out the way for all he was blindfolded, tooke wing, and flew directly against the body of a great Whe, which beate him backe so violently, that he came rattling through the boughes, till at last he caught hold on one of them with his talants, and so hanging perched himselfe, he thought to sit there, till the Hawke and the Rooke,



his learned physicians did come unto him; but they flew unto an other tree from whence they might behold the Buzzard sitting very demurely by himselfe. But he had

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not sat there long, when it hapned that one came by with a birding piece, and perceiving to save a murther, went towards him, and taking his aime gave fire, and shot the Buzzard that he came tumbling down farke dead. Which when the Rooke & the Hawke perceived, they flew away toward the Court; the Hawke being very glad that his Cousen Buzzard was brought to this end, and so giving the Rooke many thanks for inventing this device which had so luckily taken effect, they both flew together to the Court.

*The Moral.*  
**S**ome are so blindfolded that they cannot discern danger before it come upon them, as may appeare by the Buzzard, who fate blindfolded in the tree, till the Fowler came by and shot him. The Hawke bringing his Cousen Buzzard to an untimely death; and sheweth that the rich doe despise their poore kindred, and so doe expose them to danger.

### CHAP. III.

How Rapax the Hawke, and Cawwood the Rooke came to the Court, and how the Eagle declared unto the Birds the reason why he called them together.

**T**he Eagle being, as before mounted upon a Cedar, all the Birds in a circle sat round about him, making such a chaine of severall notes, tunes, and ditties, that if you had heard them, you would have thought you had never heard the like. As they were thus sitting together, in came the Hawke and the Rooke with nimble wing, and took their place amongst the other Birds. And so the Hawke having made obeisance to the King, began in an eloquent speech, to amplify the Kings mercy, who had not onely granted him a free pardon for all his former bloody offences, but also gave protection to come unto that place.

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place. But the Eagle cut him off in his speech, saying, Cousin, I hope my mercy shall finde that reward which I expect, which is, that you will amend your life, for that is the best way to give me thanks, and satisfie the whole Common wealth of Birds, who else, though they dare not speake yet openly, yet in their hearts they will condemne me of iniustice, for remitting the bloody murders, and slaughters of my Subjects which you have daily committed. But I have other matters to declare unto you, & therefore I would have you give attention, and so with his scepter (which he held in one of his talents) making a signe unto them for silence. He began his Royall speech in this manner. My loving Subjects, it becometh a King to be carefull of his Subjects, even from the highest to the lowest: I therefore doe here proteste, that all my Subjects are equally deare unto me, so that my Cousin the Hawke is not more deare unto me than the little Wren. It becometh me therefore that as I have made knowne my purpose unto you by my Proclamation, which is, to leave my Count of Sylvis, and goe into the solitary Deserts of Arabia; so it is necessary for the establishing of peace and quiet in my absence, that I leave one to rule and governe over you; and to this end I have called you to this Assembly, that whatsoever Bird among you can prove himselfe to be the worthiest, either by parentage, merit, or desert, as any other way, him I will make King in my absence. Therefore let every one speake boldly in the behalfe of themselves, and urge what reasons they can in their owne practise. The Birds hearing this began to clappe their wings, and with chirping and chattering gave a great applause to the Eagles speech.

*The Morrell.*

**T**HAT when a wicked offender receives mercy, either from the King or a Magistrate, he cannot shew more Thankfulness than by amending his life; for so the Kingly Eagle told his cousin Rapax the Hawke. Kings  
ought

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ought to take care of their Subjects in their absence; as appeareth by the Eagles speech to this Commonalty of Birds, whose rejoycing thereat, does shew how acceptable the gracious Speech of a King is to his loving Subjects.

How *Parvis the Wren* made a speech unto the *Eagle*.

**T**he Wren all this while sate upon thornes, though indeede she were now upon a higher tree than ever she was in her life before, being alwayes wont to crape and peepe in the hedge bottomes, and therefore it came that the height of the tree had put high conceits into her head. So that perking up her selfe, and getting upon a small twigge, from whence shee might be seene of all the company, she began most earnestly to desire the Kingly Eagle to make her his substitute; so, says she, though I am but a Wren, and of a small body, yet my heart is as bigge as the best; and so, my wit and policy, you may see it in building my nest, and the workmanship thereof. And therefore though I am least of Birds, yet if you please, I thinke my selfe worthy to beare the greatest authority among Birds. The Wren would still have gone on, being all heart and tongue; but that the Eagle commanded *Rubert the Robin* to speake next.

*The Morvall.*

**T**his sheweth that men of least desert will put themselves most forward, as is scene by the Wren preferring her selfe before all other Birds, and the reason is because those that have the least worth, have the greatest opinion of themselves.

How *Rubert the Robin* spake to the Eagle.

**M**ay Lord the Eagle, I hope *Rubert the Robin* is not unknowne unto you, whom men, women, and children, doe love, honour, and respect; no blame is discharged against me, no shame set for me, so that I live with

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with safetie into houses, butteries, and cellars, because no man will hurt a Robin. The reason why I am beloved is for my courtesie and familiarity towards men, so; if I finde a dead body in the ~~Wood~~, I and the rest of my fellows doe bury it with Spots and Leaves, and so; this I am called the Sexton of the ~~Wood~~: Besides, I sing in Winter, neither can the coldest frosts put me to silence, when all the other Birds like cowards creepe into bushes. I therefore having the better heart, and being generally beloved, doe know no reason why I may not governe the Common wealth of Birds in your roiall absence.

### *The Merrell.*

**I**T is some Argument of worth in our selves when we are beloved of others, as appeares by the speech of Rubeart the Robin, who urges it as a praise unto himselfe, to be beloved of men.

### *The Owles Speech.*

**T**he Owle being not in those times afraid of the other Birds, but esteemed as a grave Counsellor, began to speake next; but with such a hollow voice, as no man could understand him, yet some of his words were to this purpose. May it please your roiall Eagleship, the Owle was beloved of Pallas, and the Lacedemonians did coine their money with the Rampe and picture of an Owle, so much did the Lacedemonians love me. But the Birds hearing the Owle speake of the Lacedemonians, they fell all into a confused chirping or laughter, so that the Owle without taking any leave flew away, and ever since that time hath hid his head in an old Ivy tree, being ashamed of day light, and shunning the company of the other Birds.

### *The Merrell.*

**T**hat when men will strive to shew learning at unreasonable times, it makes them prove ridiculous, as appeares by the Owle, who was laught at for his learned speech of the Lacedemonians.

## The History of *Cavendo the Roake.*

### The Speech of Philomel the Nightingall.

**A**fter the Dole was laugh'd out of countenance, The Nightingall began to delight their eares with her sweete harmonious voyce; and no sooner had shee scann'd her selfe to speake, but the Birds were ready to give attendance to her speech; which was in this manner. Most royall Nob: raigne, if I should declare my sorowes which I receiv'd by night, making the Thorne my Song-booke, I know it would move you to compassionate my unjust ravishment; so; know, that I was daughter to a King, and ravish'd by my Sister Progne's husband, called Terenceus, and afterward by some strange power, we were all changed into Birds; Terenceus into a Lapwing, my Sister Progne into a Swallow, and I Philomel into a Nightingall, who still in lamentable tunes, setting my breast against a thorne, doe warble forth my owne griefe. And seeing every bird hath free liberty to praise her selfe, I may boldly say, that I am the honour of the Woods, the darling of the Spring, the Lovers joy; for young men and maides will walke out together to heare my notes, and if they heare me before Day-bird the Cuckoo, they are in good hope they shall enjoy their sweet hearts that year. I am called Philomel for my unobscured strains, my body is little, my voyce is loud, so that one said of me, Vox es præterea nihil: That I was onely a voyce and nothing else. It therfore my great blesse, my former wrongs; or pleasant times have any power to declare my merit, I hope the Crowne and Scepter may be worthily resigned unto me, having bene sometime a Kings Daughter, and therefore fit to be made Quene of the Woods.

*The Morrall.*

**I**njured vertue is pittied of all men, which made Philomel declare the story of her ravishment, and by the Birds giving so diligent attention, unto her, is shewed that a well delivered speech hath a great power over the mind and affections.

The

## The History of *Cannus* the Rook.

### The Cuckoos Speech.

**M**aybird the Cuckoo having heard the sweetest speech which Philomel had made, thinking he could have made as good himselfe, so; yet he had not suckt so many egges to make him hoarse, and therefore getting upon a bared bough, he began to wipe his beake, and rubbe it upon the tree; afterwards he flattered his wings, and at last, fetchng his breath as if he meant to make a long speech. he began in this manner. Great King, I am the Cuckoo, Cuckoo, Cuckoo, & so he could goe no further, but still cried Cuckoo, Cuckoo, whereat all the other Birds laugh'd, and the Cuckoo was much dismayde, and since then he will never be sene of the Birds but only in May, and so; that reason he is called the Maybird.

### *The Morrall.*

**T**his shewes that great preparations, have small performances, and that those whose braines seeme to be in labour with a Mountaine, doe at last bring forth a Mouffe, as may be perceived by Maybird the Cuckoo, who made them beleve that she had great matters to speake, and at last could say nothing but Cuckoo, Cuckoo, and so was laugh'd at for her paines.

### The Speech of Corvino the Crow.

**VV**hen the Cuckoo had ended with shame, as she began with great ostentation. Then Corvino the Crow stood up, and told them he was a great Astrologer, having knowledge in the influence of the starres, the shiftings of the winde, the change of the weather, all which he made knowne unto men by voyce, so that the shepherds are wont to say,

When the Crow doth cry amaine,

Then you may be sure of raine.

Besides, my craft and cunning it is such, that I am seldome ensnar'd & brought to ruine, and therefore I ought for my policy to be prefer'd. If a horse chance to die, I am presently upon his bones; or if a Lambe or sheepe be weake, I picke out his eyes, and afterward seeke life to some trea. and from

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thence doe heare how the Shepheards curse me, but yet so; all that I thinke the better. If therefore Policy or Knowledge in affaires may enable one so; publike government, you may make me your Substitute, and deliver the Crowne unto the Crow, so; to him it belongeth, if desert may beare it away. *The Morrall.*

**T**Hose that have no knowledge, will presume many times to be professors of Arts, so that Every Art hath some ignorant fellowes, who will pretend to have skill therein, as Mountbankes will needes be Physicians, and fellowes with a little Lattine will needes be Schoollers, as the Crow, because he cries sometimes before raime, would therefore needes be an Astrologer.

*The Speech of Mavis the Magpie.*

**T**He Magpie after this began to chatter out her minde, saying he was once a King, and so was changed into a Pye, and therefore he might now againe be changed from a Pye into a King. Besides, saith he, I have bene alwayes esteemed as a Poet, so; I can make Verses, and chatter them out so fast that you would wonder at it, and I can tell you the Commonwealth of birds have much delighted in my Songs and Ditties, being excellent Rhymes with some reason, and therefore I thinke they have reason to applaud me: and so; proofe of my skill you shall heare some of my Verses.

Although I am no Iackedaw,  
Nor house Crow that crieth Caw,  
Yet I am a Magpie,  
That can make sweete melody,  
And sing so in my mother tongue,  
That all birds shall admire my song.

And no sooner had he spoke these Verses, but the Magpie seeing the birds laugh at him, he thooze they were very good lines, and that they had no more wit then Woodcocks, or else they would have praised them.

*The Morrall.*

**B**Ecause this Morrall will be offensive to some Magpies in the world, I will deliver the Morrall to two Verses,

## The History of *Carrwood the Rooke.*

Verſes, out of *Perſius* the Poet, entreating of the ſame matter.

*Corvus Poetas, & pœtrius picas,  
Cantare credas, Pegaſeum melos.*

Crow Poets, and Poeticke Pies.

Doe thinke they make ſweete Melodies.

The Speech of Anſer the Goole.

**A**fter this Anſer the Goole, and Coby the Cocke, having by chance heard the Proclamation as they were ſtanding under a hedge, they came flying thither, but being not able to light upon a tree, the Goole and the Cocke ſtood at the bottome of the tree; which when the Eagle perceiv'd, he came downe to them, and all the birds ſate round about upon the ground. Then the Goole began to ſpeake in this manner. Albeit I am eſteemed a cowardly bird, becauſe when I goe under a barns doze I ſcrape downe my head, yet I can ſpeake much in my ſtone behalfe: for to begin with ſome times, I, onely my gagling voyce ſav'd the Capitoll of Rome, from being taken by the enemy, as I know your Eagle ſhippe hath read in hiſtories; beſides, if I come unto theſe times, how could the Latweroes Clarke or Scrivener make the poore countermen pay for theſe Law, unleſſe I lent them quills to write their bills and bonds. So that I thinke the Gargooſe being maybe as much feared now, as in the old time when they headed their arrowes with my feathers, for then many times they loſt lives, and now their lands, while the ſheepe affords the parchment, and I afford the pen, with which the Probogall ſets his hand to the ſeale, or Porpage of his whole Patrimony. Beſides, I have a great many two leggd kindred in the world, who yet ſcoone to acknowledge me, but the world knowes them to be Geese. And therefore conſidering how neceſſary I am, I hope you will give me preſeminence above the other birds: After him the Cocke ſpoke as followeth.

Coby the Cocks ſpeech.

**I** Am Coby the Cocke, or the bird of Mars, I fight ſingle combats, and from the Cockpit I beare away the bloody victory: I am the Country Clocke, and tell the Waiſes when tis time to riſe, I call up the labourer to his worke, and  
proclaime

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proclaime day-light over the whole world. I am loving to my hens, respected of my Dame that hapes me, and fed with the best barley she can get, and in requitall I tread her hens lustily, and make them lay egges. To conclude, I am come of a generous kinde, being the true Embleme of valour, and so necessary that the world could not tell how to doe for Egges at Gyrovetide if the Cocke should faile. And therefore if the matter might be decided by voyces, I know the Country wibes would desire to have me made King, for they doe all love a good treading Cocke.

### The lackdawes Speech.

**T**hough I am last to take boldneske to speake, yet I hope you will consider that I am an excellent Linguist, and have the knowledge of many Languages, so that when two lackdawes are got together about a Cuple, we make a chattering noise like to many Welchmen. Besides, I have some rich treasure which lies hid in the crowne of a tree, as namely, beades, tagges of points, pewter spones, and sunders other things, which I meant to present unto your Eagle-ship, for it is my nature to hide whatsoever I finde. Besides, for my Language (as I said before) I can speake Latin, Greeke, Hebrew, French, Italian as easily as my mother tongue, but indeede few can understand me, and therefore I doe lose that praise which I deserve. Howsoever, I hope you will consider my worthinesse, and place me as your substitute, during the time that your Eagleship shall be absent in the Desart of Arabia. And so ends lackdaw, praying for your long life, and to give you a taste of my Languages.

*Levat le Roy to blis felicissimum.*

## CHAP. IIII.

How the Eagle having heard the Birds severall speeches did make a Speech to them againe, and at last made his Cosen Rapax the Hawke Viceregent in his absence.

**T**he Eagle like a wise King having all this while coleared the chiefe matter of their speeches, he began to speake unto them in this manner. My loving Subjects, I have heard

## The History of *Carward the Hawk*.

heard what you have spoken in the behalfe of your selves. You Robert have pleaded well for your selfe, and so have you Lady Philomele, and all the rest, whose names for brevity sake I omit. But yet you have not shewed me any Vertues worthy of royall dignitie. For in that Philomele was a Kings daughter, and Mavis the Pye was sometime a King, yet these are, but the fictions of Poets, and I had rather have you make it appear that your breasts are filled with Justice, Temperance, Magnanimitie, Mercy, and such other Vertues, which are required in a King. For to boast of Parentage, or gifts of Nature, as your faire white feathers, or of Art, as Languages, Learning, and the like, they may be esteemed ornaments to private men: but Princes should have Power to make them feare, and Vertue to make them be beloved, but in none of you I finde these qualities: and therefore since you have all spoken your minde, I would faine know why my Cousen Rapax the Hawke hath late while all this while. The Hawke hearing himselfe named by the Eagle, answered thus. Say it please your highnesse. I know that my former offences, and bloody murders are so odious and hatefull in the sight of the birds, that I dare not open my beaks to pronounce a syllable in my owne behalfe. But yet might it please them to remit and forgive my former offences, and pardon what is past, I would promise (if so be your Majesty should make me your Substitue) to rule over the Commonwealthe of Birds, with Justice, temperance, and equitie, instead of killing and slaying them with my Talents. I would protect them from the inuasy of Owles and other blond suckers, who in the Winter evenings doe pull the small birds out of the bushes, and so prey upon them. When they should spend their dayes peaceably, sleepe securely, sing sweetly, feed plentifully, and live merrily. And besides, as I have power to sway the Empire, so I promise to rule over the Commonwealthe of Birds, with Justice and equitie, and to give them the better assurance that I will not prove a Tyrant, I am willing to have my Talents pared off. Wherefore if the birds doe like of my offer, to shew their consent therunto let them clappe their wings. Which was no sooner heard, but the Birds on condition that the Hawkes talents should be pared off, they

## The History of *Caradoc the Black*.

all eyes with one voice: *Phil Rex Rapax*. Let the Hawke be King. *The Moral.*

**A** cunning dissembler will alwayes cover his Vice with the death of Vertues, as may be seen by the Hawkes speech, who promising to ride with Justice amongst them; got so farre into the opinion of the birds, that they were content to chuse him King, to avoid further strife amongst themselves. Take heede therefore of false speeches, for all their words are mingled with dissimulation.

### CHAP. V.

How *Rapax* the Hawke had his talents payed off, and how the Eagle had resigned his Scepter unto him, and made him King of the Birds.

**A**fter the birds had consented to the Hawkes speech. The Hawke, because they had no edge toles amongst them, put his talents into the cleft of a tree, and so neerer best pulling, till hee had pulled them quite off, and yet the hope of sober signery was so sweet unto him that he felt no paine therein. Being thus unable to hurt. The Eagle rose out of his seat, and caused the Hawke to sit therein, and afterwards delivered his Scepter unto him, and put his Crowne upon his head, and then charged him to remember his promise, which was, to have a care of his subjects, and be loving unto them; as also to heare their complaints, to redresse their grievances, and to yield them reliefe. And this see, you perforce, as you tender or respect your owne life; for if at my returne from the Arabian Desert, I finde that you have wrong'd my Subjects, you shall be sure to die for it. The Hawke answered, that he hoped his Gracious Maie would commend him at his returne, and not finde any ill cause of punishment. for though I have beene heretofore counted cruel, and have plumed upon the Carcasse of many a small bird, as Larks, and Sparrowes, and sometimes upon Doves, Partridges, Quails, & the like, yet now your Subjects shall finde me full of mercy, for indeede I was then enforced to be cruel by next City. At these words the Eagle took wing, so taking some fewe birds of note with him, he flew away, and when these birds had

## The History of Cawwood the Rooke.

had accompanied him some part of the way: he sent them backe againe, charging them to be carefull to obey the Hawke in all things. And so flew on to the Desart of Arabia.

*The Morrell.*  
**T**he nature of man is given to seeke honour, which hee thinkes to be a sufficient reward for all his sufferings, as may appeare by the Hawke, who could endure to plucke off his owne Talents, in hope to be made King.

### CHAP. VI.

How the Hawke behaved himselfe after the departure of the Eagle, and how he requited Cawwood the Rooke for teaching him to make away the Buzzard, as is shewed in the first Chapter.

**T**he Eagle being gone, the Hawke behoued himselfe very lovingly for the first weeke, as Nero, the first the peates of his raigne was counted the best of Kings, but after ward he proued the worst of Tyrants: in the Hawke resembled his nature for a weeke or fortnight, but after ward he had a great desire to shed blood, and therefore he began to thinke how he might put Cawwood the Rooke to death, and requite him for his former kindeesse in betraying the Buzzard, and making him many blinde folowes with a clout about his head, till one came by and shot him with a birding peece. Now to bring this to passe, he called many of the little birds together, and told them, that what cruelty he had formerly committed, was by the encouragement of the Rooke, who made him beleue, that being nature had allotted him no other foode, it was lawfull for him to prey upon all sorts of birds, and that now he was afraid least he should put into his mind the same blinde principles againe, and therefore to avoid suspicion. My loving Subjects saith he, if any of you can accuse him of any hainous crime, (as I know he is guilty of many) I will grant you a day of hearing against him, that so, if he cannot cleere himselfe, he may suffer the punishment of death, which is due unto his desarts: no sooner had the Hawke spoken these wordes, but presently they told his Spacellie, that they had every one cause to complaine against

## The History of Cawood the Rooke

him, and therefore if he were once summoned to the Court they would be all ready to accuse him.

*The Morall.*

**T**hey who employ others in wickednesse never love them any longer, untill their owne purpose is effected, as may appeare by the Hawke, who sought the life of the Rooke, after he had us'd his invention to make away the Buzzard. So that he which furthers a mans vice, is belov'd while it is doing, but is hated when tis done.

## CHAP. VII.

How Cawwood the Rooke was called to the Court to answer for himselfe, and how all the small birds brought in their accusations against him.

**T**he Hawke began now to make knowne his bloody nature, and therefore sent Corino the Crow to summon the Rooke to appeare at the Court of Sylvia, who accordingly came at the day appointed, not doubting to receive any injury from the Hawke, being allwayes his friend, and therefore not fearing that now being made King, he would use his power to his destruction, but it proved far otherwile, for no sooner was Cawwood come unto the Hawkes presence but the Hawke commanded him to stand forth and answer to such matters as should be laid against him, so saies he, friend Rooke there are many complaints made against you, and I must doe iustice as I promised the Eagle at his departure. When the Rooke heard this, he began to change colour, and his feathers began to stand up on end, what thought he shall I be betrayd by a Traytor, yet at last saying no remedy, he was faine to stand to it, while the Birds gathered round about him, being all ready on complainte against him; and then Robert the Robert began his enditeament.

*The Morall.*

**T**yrants doe alwayes pretend an outward shew of justice, as may be seene by the Hawkes speech to Cawwood the Rooke, who being afraid thereof, does shew that a guiltie conscience is a thousand witnesses.

CHAP.

## The History of Cawwood the Rooke.

### CHAP. VIII.

How Rubert the Robin complayned against Cawwood the Rooke.

**I** Am glad that we small Birds have now free liberty to shew our wrongs and grubbances, which we have received from Cawwood the Rooke, who upon a time brought me in danger of my life, for one day as he and I were walking in a field by a hedge side, we chanced to come where there was a turfe set up with two stiches, and a little hole digged underneath it; I began to aske him what it was. He sayes he doe you not know what this is, then you have lost many a faire woyme, for it is never without one or two, and therefore (saies he) if you hop into the bottome of it, you shall finde my words true, but quoth I is there no danger in it? No (sayes he) He warrant you for danger, whereupon I believing him, leapt upon the forked stiches, and no sooner was I lighted thereon, but presently the turfe fell upon my head, so that I was made close prisoner in the Pittfall, and there I continued, till at last a waggish boy, who had made the Pittfall came and took me out, and with great joy carried me to his mother, but the telling him that it was ill lucke to hurt a Robin, at last the boy was content onely to cut of my taylor and let me flye, whereby I escaped the danger that the Rooke had brought me into, and therefore I desire that we may have iustice on him.

#### The Sparrowes complaint.

**W**ith the same malicious intent, though not in the same manner, Cawwood the Rooke brought me in danger and perill of my life. For the frosty morning there being a great many Limestraves set on a dunghill, Cawwood the Rooke went amongst them and spying mee upon the top of a Barne, called me downe unto him, and bid me comf to him, for there were a great many wheate eares scattered on the ground, whereupon I being somewhat hungry, by reason of the cold frosty weather came flying to him, and no sooner had I begun to pecke on one of the eares, but straight the end of one of the limestraves caught me by the backe, and another under the wing, so that I had much a doe

## The History of Cawwood the Rooke.

to get from thence, soz when he that watcht the straws sawe me limed and taken, he came running out to catch me, but then with all the strength I had, I made towards a hedge, and having gotten into the bottome thereof escaped the fowlers hands. Thus I was betrayed by Cawwood the Rooke, and I thinke there is no Bird but hath some accusation against him.

### The Complaint of the Woodcocke.

**M**ay it please you, I was once coming through a wood with this Trayter Cawwood the Rooke, and as we went, there was two or three stiches set iust crosse the path, with one great bended stiche, wherein was a noose of haire. And as we came to them I asked the Rooke what this meant, why sayes he it is a swing, wherupon I am wont many times to stretch my selfe, at these wordes like a Woodcocke as I was, I went to take hold of the great stiche, and thought to have swung upon it, but no sooner had I set my toose upon the Bridge but the Spring flew up, and caught me by one of the legges, so that there I lay upright, and looking every houre when the Fowler would come to fetch me, and if the haire noose had not broken, I had certainly long ere this bene roasted, and serued up to some rich mans Table. The Woodcocke had no sooner ended his complaint, but there came in a Thrush and a Starling like magmed Souldiers hopping upon one legge, and seeing Cawwood the Rooke standing at the barre. The Thrush, because he was the better speaker began to tell their case; how that Cawwood the Rooke made them beleve that a Birding-paice was but a pipe which men used to play upon, wherupon one morning a Fowler coming towards us with a Paice, we thinking to heare his pipe late still, so that he taking his ayme discharged against us, and so' me into the legge, and my brother Starling into the toing. Thus hath the Rooke with his craft deceived us many times, and many a bird hath bee brought to untimely end by his cunning. We beseech the Hawke therefore (who we heare is left substitute in the Eagles absence) that he would punish the cruelty of the Rooke.

# The History of *Cawwood the Rooke*.

## CHAP. IX.

How *Cawwood the Rooke*, would have answered for himselfe, but that *Rapax the Hawke* would not suffer him, but condemned him to perpetuall banishment.

**V**Vhen *Rapax the Hawke* had heard these accusations against the *Rooke*, he was very glad thereof, And yet (as it is the nature of cunning trechery) he seemed to pittie his calamitie, and told him he was sorry to heare so many soyle matters urged against him. I have alwayes (saies he) had a good opinion of you, but I see how much we may be deceived. And I wish that some other might giue judgement on your crimes and offences, but yet since it hath pleased the Eagle to giue me all power, and to put the Scepter of justice into my talents, there shall no respect of friendship sway me, and therefore you must looke for no more mercy at my hands, then iustice will permit. For albeit you are my friend, yet I must proue my selfe a loyall subject to the Eagle, who hath put me in trust to see rewards and punishments equally distributed amongst his subjects, and this I take to be the true nature of Justice. At these wordes the *Rooke* began to prepare himselfe, and would faine have answered the obiection of his adversaries, beginning to shew that it was not his craft, but their folly which brought them into danger; for (saith he) if *Rubert the Robin* will needs be paying into a *Wilsall*, who can helpe it? or if the *Woodcocke* will take a *Springs* for a *Swinge* it is not my cunning but their simplicitie which brings them into danger, which by escaping they have learned more trife, and so ought in iustice to giue me thanks, for now they know how to adioice the like perills hereafter. Besides all this, you that sit to condemne me, ought not to sake my life, but to save me from my enemies, for you know how for your sake I contriued an excellent devise to make away *Fliwell the Buzzard*. But at that word the *Hawke* commanded them to stop his mouth, and that with a noose of haire they should forthwith strangle him. When the *Rooke* saw there was no way but death, he began to intreat for mercy, whereupon the

*Hawke*

## The History of *Cawwood the Rooke.*

Hawke considering better with himselfe, pronounced this sentence against him. In regard that thou Cawwood the Rooke hast highly transgressed and offended against the Commonwealth of Birds, by deceiving Phillip the Sparrow, Rubert the Robin, and Longbill the Woodcocke, I doe here banish thee out of the Country, and send thee to live for ever in the Citie. Since which time the Citie hath bene alwaies full of Rookes. For no sooner was the sentence given but the Parliament of Birds broke up, and the Rooke flew away to the Citie, where he hath ever since remained, there being divers sorts of Rookes, as for example, your cheating Gamester is a Rooke, and your fellows that cheate Countrymen are Rookes, the Tapster that Alieth his pot is a Rooke, and he that drinks with you and slips away when the reckoning comes to be payd is a Rooke. And so conclude there are so many sorts of Rookes that I cannot reckon them, so: sometimes your Rooke will be in the shape of a decayd gallant, sometimes in a threadbare Cloak waiting at Bowling Allies, sometimes in a blew Jerkin like a Countryman, and sometimes in the Market in the shape of a Quipster. And therefore I would have Countrymen buy this Booke, for though it be The History of the Rooke, yet it will not cost them so deare, as the acquaintance of these City Rooke.

### *The Morrall.*

**C**Rafty fellowes, albeit they scape a great while, yet at last are brought to ruine and disgrace, for if they come once to publicke tryall, then all their enemies are ready to accuse them, as appeareth by the Rooke, who after all his cunning trickes was at last banished to live in the Citie; so that your Rooke is borne in the Country, and bred in the City, and this is the concluding Morrall of this Chapter.

FINIS.



